

## REMARKS

The attached Declaration under Rule 131 shows invention prior to August 3, 2000, which predates both cited references. Moreover, diligence from that date forward to filing is demonstrated by the attorney's Declaration.

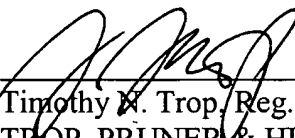
The rules provide for the filing of 131 Declarations by the inventor. However, it also permits filing by other interested persons. The undersigned is such an interested person and is the one most competent to file the Declaration since the Declaration establishes diligence in attorney prosecution.

The facts relating to the contacting of the named inventor are set forth in the Declaration in paragraph 12. In view of the unavailability of the inventor, the attorney's Declaration should suffice.

In view of these remarks, the application should now be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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